BANGALORE CITY MUNICIPALITY.

No. 43.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BANGALORE, HELD ON SATURDAY THE 5TH JULY 1930 AT 12 NOON IN THE CHAMBER OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL OFFICE.

Members.

Present ... 23	Absent ... 7

2. To consider letter No. L. 8764—M. L. 287-29-2, dated 2nd June 1930, from the General Secretary to Government stating that the proposal of the Municipal Council to remove every alternate light in Sri Narasimharaja Road cannot be accepted.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao proposed that subject No. 27(*a*) and (*b*) be taken up for consideration along with this subject. Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar seconded it. Sense of the house was taken and they accepted it.

The following propositions were moved by Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao and seconded by Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar.

27. (*a*) Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao to move :—

"That the Council strongly deprecates the Commissioner's habit of writing covering letters to Government with respect to the resolutions of the Council and in derogation thereof and behind the back of the Council soliciting orders of Government with respect to matters fully in the competence of the Municipal Council.

(*b*) The Council further strongly disapproves of the apathy of the Commissioner in giving effect to the resolution with regard to the removal of ornamental lights in Sri Narasimharaja Road and writing to Government in the meantime.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao observed that the Commissioner's writing covering letters to Government have caused them sorrow and indignation. The Commissioner has independent powers in regard to certain matters under the Regulation but in regard to other matters he is a subordinate to the Council. It is his duty to carry out its resolutions faithfully and loyally but not sit in judgment over them. Regarding removal of lights in Sri Narasimharaja Road when the B. P. L. Superintendent did not carry out the resolutions, the Commissioner should have placed the matter before the Council instead of writing to Government with his own opinion. Again in the matter of suspension of Flat Rate, the Commissioner acting under the color of watching over the Finances cannot ask the Government to interfere in the matter when he had ample opportunities of expressing his views before the Council. In his covering letters regarding Budget he has used very insulting language and should be resented by the Council. All this must be protested if they want to vindicate the honor of the Council.

Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar seconded the proposition and observed that the creation of Commissioner's appointment was an encroachment on the rights of Local Self Government. But there are some safeguards against undue advantage being taken by the Commissioner. He has his duties defined in the Regulation, and in all other matter he is subordinate to the Council and he has therefore to faithfully and loyally carry out the resolutions of the Council and not to act derogatory to it. He has no powers to write covering letters contrary to the wishes of the Council as passed by their resolutions and sit in judgment over them. He is constitutionally irregular and it is high time that he should be acquainted with these facts. The wordings of the resolutions are quite appropriate and I second the above resolutions.

Mr. B. L. Byanna proposed an amendment to the above proposition that the words "disapproves" be substituted for "strongly deprecates" and the words "Habit" and "behind the back of the Council" be deleted. In doing so, he said he first thought that the Council members could not question the propriety of the Commissioner's action of writing covering letters to Government so long as he was within his bounds and limits, After having heard the mover and seconder of the proposition that the Commissioner has not only sat in judgment over the Council's decision but to certain extent misrepresented the facts. he thinks when the Commissioner has exceeded his rights and powers the Council has a right to condemn his action. He moved the amendment as he considered the wording of the proposition was rather vehement and of a personal character. The Commissioner's action may be taken as placing an axe to the root of Local-Self Government and was in defiance of good intentions of Government who granted the privileges to the non-official body, that such an action could not be tolerated if they had any self-respect in them. Then the amendment was proposed and lost for want of a seconder.

Then Mr. S. N. M. Razvi wanted to know what the Commissioner had to say in the matter.

At the request of the House the Commissioner made the following statement. With regard to financial matters he is expected to watch over them under section 24 (b). He

knows no doubt what powers he has. They should not think that he wrote the covering letters to insult them. If the Council should decide that he should not express his views in covering letters it will be a matter for consideration. Resolution 2 is not correct and there was no apathy on his part. He wrote to the Superintendent, Bangalore Power and Lighting first and addressed the Government when he did not comply with his request. He thought he has powers to represent his views (1) when the Council resolutions are not consistent, (2) when the Municipality loses financially, (3) when the resolution is not legal, or is irregular. Regarding first resolution word "habit" used therein is a strong word and reflects on the Council. "Behind the back" is incorrect as the correspondence passes through the President and the statement "fully within the competence" is not applicable as the Government has to give is assent before the resolutions are given effect to. He has been here for two years and has served loyally and faithfully and would leave the matter to the Council and the public to decide. The previous Commissioners have done the same things and no decision to serve as a guide. He referred to certain instances where the Advocate Councillors have interfered in matters connected with Land Acquisition cases and how resolutions have been brought to suspend the acquisition proceedings.

Mr. S. Narayana Rao proposed that the whole matter be referred to a small Committee consisting of the mover, the President and three others.

Mr. G. Siddaveerappa seconded it.

Put to vote and lost as 8 voted for and 10 against. Council adjourned for lunch.

When the Council re-assembled after lunch Mr. S. N. M. Razvi proposed "that this Council resolves that Mr. Rama Rao, Council Clerk, who hesitated and disobeyed the orders of the Council through the President be suspended for a period of 6 months" Mr. B. L. Byanna seconded the same.

This resolution was then withdrawn as the clerk tendered his apology to the effect that he was wrong and that he must be excused.

The discussion was then resumed.

Mr. W. H. Hanumantappa next speaking said that the Commissioner has no powers to include in the Budget the amount of Flat Rate when the Council has resolved to remove it in the Budget. This is a thing which the Government should have done when they are passing the Budget. Flat Rate was levied under the promise that greater water facilities would be created. Under section 47, the Council has full powers to suspend any tax. When there is great difficulty for water the Council rightly resolved to suspend it. Any person who differs from the resolution has no place as ours is the Local Self Government. The Municipal Council is supreme in certain matters and gives unlimited powers to it. The Commissioner is expected to faithfully carry out the Council resolution and fight with Government to get them sanctioned instead of representing a different view and get them vetoed by Government. The Council resolution was intended to effect some savings by reducing a large number of lights which were unnecessary and were set up by the former President on his own accord without taking previous sanction of the Council.

Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar next speaking stated that it is conceded on both sides that the matter under discussion is a very important one affecting the prestige of the Council on one side and the duties and responsibilities of the Commissioner on the other side. Before going to the merits of the resolution I should like to give a personal explanation regarding subject No. 13 on the agenda referred to by the Commissioner as an interference on the part of the Councillors in carrying out his legitimate duties. It is my old proposition and Mr. Narasinga Rao has only lent his name. I did it with the best intentions for the Municipality which would result in a lot of savings besides carrying out fully the objects for which the said property concerned was acquired. There is no personal interest in bringing this resolution. I assure the Commissioner and I am sorry that he should have suspected me for this resolution.

He defined and explained to the Commissioner his powers as contained in section (A) 42, 186 (a) and 184 (a to p). He took strong objections to the expressions used in Government letters regarding Budget matters "intrinsically inconsistent," "noval" and he pointed out that the President has put in his dissenting notes in these cases. The Commissioner's intentions are no doubt good but unless he fully co-operates and carries out the Council resolutions even through they may be against his views he will not be meriting their confidence. He is expected to leave the policy to be decided by the Council and carry out the resolutions *in toto*. There must be complete harmony between the Commissioner and the President. The three letters are wrongly written. He finally requested the Commissioner to discontinue such prateice and preserve the harmony and work together wholeheartedly as long as they continue together.

Mr. D. Venkataramanappa spoke that the letter addressed by the Commissioner is not a mistake as the Commissioner might have received representations from the public that the lights in the Sri Narasimharaja Road should not be removed on account of the importance of that road. He never meant to insult the Council but wanted to help the ratepayers. He has been very helpful to them and they are thankful for it. It is hoped that there will be harmony between him and the Council.

Mr. Ramlal Tiwari observed that the Flat Rate should be abolished as it greatly affects the rat payers. He has received several complaints regarding the hardships due to his levy. The Commissioner should respect the Council resolutions. 950

Mr. S. N. M. Razvi stated that Government should be attacked as they have made the greater mistake to have upset our resolutions. The Government have offered the greatest insult to us. The Commissioner has done a lesser mistake because the Government are insulting us and so the Commissioner had the boldness to write such letters. As a Nationalist, he wanted to see that there should be harmony between the Commissioner and the Council. It is to bring to the notice of the Commissioner and to prevent him from writing covering letters with his opinion differing from the views of the Council, these resolutions were brought up. It is not to insult him. If he assures that these will not be repeated, he would request the mover to withdraw his propositions.

Mr. Saligram Narayana Rao spoke as follows:—

I support Mr. Razvi entirely. The Commissioner I am sure has not done anything with purpose. He has done it with honourable intentions. I hope that with an assurance from him that such things will not recur these resolutions may be dropped.

Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar observed that the Commissioner should not have any suspicion against the Advocate Councillors. He assured that they are better National Leaders and what they do, they do for the good of the City. Their responsibility as Councillors is greater than the Commissioner's as they could be used personally for their sins which the Commissioner is exempted from.

The Commissioner rose up and said "I am really sorry that I should have caused you uneasiness of the mind. It is really mean, of me to try such experiments with you and should have created an impression that I should lower you in the estimation of Government. I shall not do it again."

After this assurance, Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao desired to withdraw his propositions.

At the suggestion of the House the President requested that every speaker may send in a summary of his speech for being incorporated in the minutes.

The President brought to the notice of the Council that even letter sent to his address by registered post was not sent to him and that he was not getting sufficient co-operation from the Chief Executive head. Hereafter he expected that there would be better co-operation between him and the Commissioner in the discharge of their duties. The Council fully supported the views expressed by the President.

The meeting was adjourned to Wednesday the 9th of July 1930 at 4 P.M. for want of time.

No. 44.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BANGALORE, HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 9TH JULY 1930, AT 4 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL OFFICE, BANGALORE.

Present	...	19	Absent	...	11

DEFERRED SUBJECTS.

1. To accept a tender for providing a sewage pipe line of 12" from the Maharaja Mills to the out-fall works and trench connecting the waste water.

Mr C. N. Narasinga Rao proposed that the lowest tender for material and work be accepted, Mr. S. N. M. Razvi seconded it.

Put to vote and carried ten voting for and none against.

19. To consider Municipal Commissioner's memo in regard to the purchase of Khadar to the recipients of doles at the Langarkhana.

Subject No. 19 on the agenda was advanced.

Mr. B. K. Garudachar proposed and Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao seconded that the Commissioner be authorised to purchase Hand-spun and Hand-woven khadar as far as available and the Indian Mill made cloth for those that are not available. The extra cost required may be incurred out of the reserves. Carried unanimously.

15. To consider letter No. L. 9171—MI. 289-29-7, dated 23rd June 1930, from the General Secretary to Government, suggesting the names of 4 Assistant Engineers and that anyone of them will be placed at the disposal of the Municipality for the place of the Municipal Engineer.

(This subject was advanced).

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao proposed that Mr. P. Subba Rao be selected as Municipa Engineer. Dr. Gopalakrisha Rao seconded it. Mr. B. K. Garudachar amended the above that this appointment will be subject to the appointment of the Senior Executive Engineer to take up the place of the present Commissioner. This was accepted by the mover. The resolution in the amended form was put to vote and passed unanimously.

27. Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao to move:

(*a*) That the Council strongly deprecates the Commissioner's habit of writing covering letters to Government with respect to the resolutions of the Council and in derogation thereof and behind the back of the Council soliciting orders of Government with respect to matters fully in the competence of the Municipal Council.

(*b*) The Council further strongly disapproves of the apathy of the Commissioner in giving effect to the resolution with regard to the removal of ornamental lights in Sri Narasimharajendra Road and writing to Government in the meantime.

According to the understanding arrived at, at the previous meeting the speakers were requested to hand over the purport of their speeches to Chair. Among those delivered, the second statement made by the Commissioner was requested to be read out for the information of the Council.

After the statement of the Municipal Commissioner was read out and as there appeared some material difference between this and the one made on 5th July 1930 Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar moved the following resolution in regard to the above proposition.

"The Council resolves that since differences of opinion have arisen as to the real import of the statement made by the Commissioner on 5th July 1930 and the Commissioner states now that he did not mean to say that he was not going to write covering letters with his own opinions, the resolutions be taken up for consideration, the house not having given leave to withdraw."

Mr. B. L. Byanna seconded the above. Put to vote and carried ten voting for and two against.

As the resolutions have been fully discussed, the President requested Mr. Narasinga Rao to say what he has to say by way of reply to the several points brought forth in the discussion.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao dwelt at length and with sufficient force of argument the necessity that arose for bringing forward these resolutions, how the prestige of the Council has suffered on account of these covering letters referred to in course of discussions, how the Commissioner had gone out of his powers and abrogated the authority of sitting in Judgment over the well considered resolutions of the Council. His action is irregular and the dignity of the Council is wounded by being overridden by the individual opinion of one man, who, after all is a subordinate of the Council and who is appointed to carry their wishes. He dwelt that the Government have encroached upon the powers vested in them in upsetting these resolutions. The powers of removing the lights and suspending flat rate under Section 47 of the Regulation are vested entirely in the Council under the Regulation and the interference of Government is uncalled for. Financially the removal of lights is decided by a gain even if the Council should bear the cost thereof as in the long run there will be an annual savings of nearly Rs. 1,200. He was very sorry to see that the Commissioner struck to his guns and did not see that the Council's resolutions had to be sent to Government without being interfered with." I would appeal to the Councillors to pass these resolutions unanimously and save the honor and prestige of the body to which they have the honor to belong. With these words he commended the resolutions for the acceptance of the house.

Resolutions were put to vote and carried twelve voting for and three against.

Mr. B. L. Byanna demanded a poll and Mr. S. N. M. Razvi seconded it.

The following voted 'for':—

1. Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar
2. ,, B. K. Garudachar
3. ,, T. S. Raghavachar
4. ,, K. Srikantaiya
5. ,, Ramlal Tiwari
6. ,, G. Siddaveerappa
7. ,, C. N. Narasinga Rao
8. Mr. D. Gopalakrishna Rao
9. ,, S. N. M. Razvi
10. ,, B. L. Byanna
11. ,, W. H. Hanumanthappa
12. ,, V. Vajapey
13. ,, S. K. Venkatarangiengar

The following voted 'against':—

1. Mr. J. R. Isaac
2. ,, D. Venkataramanappa
3. Mr. B Kempanna

2. To consider letter No. L. 8764—Mi. 297-29-2, dated 2nd June 1930 from the General Secretary to Government stating that the proposal of the Municipal Council to remove every alternate light in Sri Narasimharaja Road cannot be accepted.

5. To consider letter No. L. 8762—Mi. 338 29-2, dated 2nd June 1930 from the General Secretary to Government stating that the resolution of the Municipal Council to suspend levy of flat rate cannot be accepted.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao proposed that the subjects 2 and 5 on the agenda may be considered together. This was accepted by the Council

Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar moved the following proposition.

"This Council resolves that the President shall be authorised to write to Government suitably answering the several statements in Government Order No. L. 8761—Mi. 297-29-2, dated 2nd June 1930 and Government Letter No. 8762—Mi. 338-28-2 dated 2nd June 1930 and voicing the Council's protest against the Government's interference with the Council's

powers in respect of suspending the flat rate and in respect of the removal of the electric lights on the Sri Narasimharaja Road. 952

That a sub-committee consisting of the following gentlemen be appointed to assist the President in drafting the letter.

1. Mr. B. K. Garudachar, 2. Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar, 3. Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao, 4. Mr. S. N. M. Razvi, 5. Mr. J. R. Isaac, 6. Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar.

Further proposed that the reply should be submitted to Government within a fortnight. This was seconded by Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao. Put to vote and carried eight voting for and two against.

3. To consider the resolution of the Managing Committee dated 28th May 1930 that ornamental lights to Shankarmutt Road, Basaveswara Temple Road, Hardinge Road and Shankarpur cannot be recommended for want of funds.

Resolution.—Approved.

7. To approve the resolution of the City Improvement Committee held on 28th May 1930 recommending acquisition of certain properties for opening a conservancy lane in Agrahara on the southern side of V main road, Chamrajpet, with a plan and valuation statement for Rs. 691.

Resolution.—Approved.

9. To consider Managing Committee's resolution dated 28th May 1930 regarding the irregularities in the store accounts of the Health Office together with deferred subject No. 1 of the Council meeting dated 17th May 1930 regarding the defalcation of amounts in the Health Office, together with petitions received from Puttagowramma, wife of B. Venkatanarasiah, formerly Head Clerk of the Health Office, forwarded by the General Secretary to Government stating that she is prepared to make good the sum of Rs. 300, misappropriated by her husband, provided the criminal case filed against him is withdrawn.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao, proposed that the recommendation of the Managing Committee be approved, (2) that Puttagowramma's application be rejected summarily, (3) that the auditors at the time have not discharged their duties properly and that their explanation be obtained through the Comptroller and placed before the Council.

The above was seconded by Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar. Put to vote and carried.

10. To accord sanction for the grant of Rs. 1,200, towards expenditure of a Model Industrial School intended to be started in Bangalore City in the buildings of S. L. N. Charities.

Resolution.—Sanctioned.

DEFERRED.

3. To sanction an estimate amounting to Rs. 7,000, being the probable cost of lay out maintenance and protection of Municipal Parks, squares, etc., for the next year 1930-31.

Mr. D. Venkataramanappa, proposed that the statement of expenditure of Rs. 7,000, for the management and maintenance of (1) Sri Krishnarajendra Park, (2) Sri Narasimharaja Square, (3) Silver Jubilee Park and (4) Dharmambudhi Tank bed Park cannot be sanctioned and that the same may be handed over to the Municipality.

This was seconded by Mr. G. Siddaveerappa.

Put to vote and passed unanimously.

4. To approve quotations received for the supply of an Oil Paint (Life size) of the portrait of late Mr. S. Venkatarangiengar.

Mr. B. Kempanna proposed that the quotation of Mr. Munisamiraju for an oil painting of 60×40 with four inch gold frame for Rs. 350, be accepted. Mr. D. Venkataramanappa seconded it and carried unanimously.

No. 45.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BANGALORE, HELD ON SATURDAY THE 12TH JULY 1930 AT 4 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL OFFICE.

Present ... ... 15 | Absent 15

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS.

To approve the recommendation of the Health Officer, to continue the services of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon for another year to complete the investigation work he has been entrusted in regard to Cholera and Plague.

Resolution.—His services may be continued for one year.

6. To consider letter No. L. 8952, dated 10th July 1930, from the General Secretary to Government forwarding copy of letter No. 675—29-30, dated 5th May 1930, from the President, Kolar Town Municipal Council, requesting to waive the hire charges of decoration articles lent to them, for favourable consideration.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao moved and Mr. S. N. M. Razvi seconded that the matter be referred to Managing Committee. Put to vote and lost six voting for and seven against.

Mr. B. L. Byanna moved and Mr. Ramlal Tiwari seconded that the recommendation of the Municipal Commissioner to reduce the amount to Rs. 100 be approved.

Mr. W. H. Hanumanthappa moved an amendment that Rs. 250, may be charged which the mover accepted.

Put to vote and passed nine voting for and two against. 953

Resolution Considering the financial condition of the Kolar Town Municipality, this Municipal Council resolves to remit half the amount, *viz.*, Rs. 250.

9. To sanction the amendment of the existing bye-law No. 24 of Octroi bye-laws framed under section 48 (1) (k) of the Municipal Regulation regarding Octroi refunds with a notice calling for objections. (Objections are not received.)

Resolution. —Approved.

12. To consider letter, dated 6th June 1930, from the Treasurer and Secretary, Maternity and Child Welfare Association, Bangalore, requesting for sum regular financial support.

Mr. D. Gopalakrishna Rao proposed that Rs. 15 per month may be given.

Mr. W. H. Hanumanthappa seconded and passed unanimously.

18. To consider letter No. M. T. 20095, dated 18th June 1930, from the Superintendent, Bangalore Power and Lighting, stating that a higher rate of Royalty will have to be paid for installing powerful lamps in certain squares of the City.

Resolution.—Higher power lamps are not necessary.

25. To sanction an estimate for Rs. 78 to shift Ornamental light No. 307—M. O. in Avenue Road to the cross lane leading to Chowdeswari Temple Street.

Resolution.—Sanctioned.

26. To confirm the sale of sites held on 23rd and 24th June 1930, in the link road between Seshadripuram and Malleswaram. (The average works out to Rs. 1-15-7).

Resolution.—Confirmed.

(6) That the Council recommends to the Government the urgent necessity of having a Magistrate to deal exclusively on the cases under the Municipal Regulation and that jurisdiction be given to him to try offences in respect of false weights and measures and adulteration of food stuffs.

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao moved the proposition with great emphasis.

Mr. D. Venkataramanappa seconded it. Put to vote and carried, six voting for and four against.

Poll was demanded by Mr. B. L. Byanna and Mr. Razvi seconded it.

The following 'for' :—

(1) Mr. T. S. Raghavachar, (2) Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao, (3) Mr. D. Venkataramanappa, (4) Mr. Ramlal Tiwari, (5) Mr. G. Siddaveerappa and (6) Mr. V. Vajapey.

The following voted 'against' :—

(1) Mr. S. K. Venkatarangiengar, (2) Mr. B. L. Byanna, (3) Mr. W. H. Hanumanthappa and 4) Mr. S. N. M. Razvi.

No. 46.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BANGALORE, HELD ON FRIDAY THE 18TH JULY 1930 AT 5 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION SENT UP BY 10 MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Present ... ... 14 | Absent 16

Mr. W. H. Hanumanthappa moved the following proposition given notice of :—

"That in the interests of the voters and candidates, this council is of opinion that the returning Officer be requested to hold the ensuing elections for the Municipal Council on different dates in respect of the different divisions of the City as was in vogue previously."

Resolution.—

Mr. C. N. Narasinga Rao seconded it, Mr. Belur Srinivasa Iyengar proposed an amendment that election be held for four days as follows :—

1. III and V Divisions.
2. I, VII and IV Divisions.
3. VIII and IX Divisions.
4. II and VI Divisions.

This was seconded by Mr. S. K. Venkatarangaiengar. The amendment was put to vote and carried.

Resolved that the Municipal Commissioner be requested to hold the elections for four days commencing from the 14th October 1930, in the order of the Divisions as proposed.

P. SUBBARAMA CHETTY,

Honorary President.